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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): AKZO NOBEL N.V. [NL/NL]; Velperweg 76, NL-6824 BM Arnhem (NL).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): WIERINGA, Jannes, Hubertus [NL/NL]; N.V. Organon, P.O. Box 20, NL-5340 BH OSS (NL). VAN DE VEN, Adrianus, Antonius, Martinus [NL/NL]; N.V. Organon, P.O. Box 20, NL-5340 BH OSS (NL). KEMPERMAN, Gerardus, Jannes [NL/NL]; N.V. Organon, P.O. Box 20, NL-5340 BH OSS (NL).

(74) Agent: VAN DEN BROEK, Ludovicus, A., G., M.; P.O. Box 20, NL-5340 BH OSS (NL).

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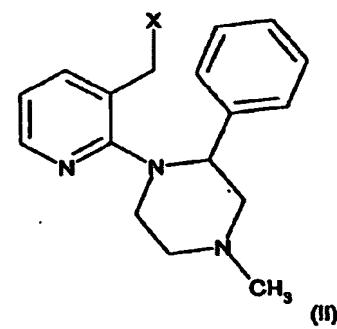
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WO 2005/005410 A1



(57) Abstract: The invention provides a method for the preparation of enantiomerically pure mirtazapine, said method comprising a step of ring closure of a compound of formula (II) wherein X is a leaving group, said step comprising treatment with an acid, whereby mirtazapine with enantiomeric excess is formed by the ring closure of the compound of formula (II) with enantiomeric excess by treatment with a suitable acid in the absence of a solvent or a suitable combination of an acid and an organic solvent.